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# 8 Things you should know as... an **active MTRS member**



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**1** According to the "Rule of 90," I will receive 80% of my final salary average when the total of my age, plus my years of service, equals 90.

**True**

**False**

**1** According to the "Rule of 90," I will receive 80% of my final salary average when the total of my age, plus my years of service, equals 90.

True

False

**False!**

**There is no such thing as the "Rule of 90" regarding your MTRS benefits.**

The percentage that you will receive is based on your age, years of service and RetirementPlus status and eligibility (see the ["percentage chart"](#)).

**2** Which retirement option did most retirees in the retirement class of 2009 choose—Option A, B or C?

**A**

**B**

**C**

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**A**

**B**

**C**

The retiree class of 2008 chose as follows:

**Option A      56%**

**Option B      14%**

**Option C      30%**

Remember—your [option selection](#) is a personal choice, to be based on **your** individual financial and personal situation.

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**3** Your MTRS retirement benefit is payable for your lifetime.

**True**

**False**

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**True**

**False**

**True!**

The MTRS is a “defined benefit” plan, which means that your retirement benefit is determined by a set formula, and the amount is not subject to fluctuations in the pension fund’s performance.

Exception: A member’s pension may be subject to forfeiture in the event of criminal conviction.

**4** The MTRS administers your health insurance in retirement.

**True**

**False**



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True

False

**False!**

**The MTRS does NOT administer your health insurance benefits.**

While we may deduct your health insurance premiums from your monthly payment and forward them to either the GIC or your city or town treasurer, that bookkeeping function is our only involvement.

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**5** I will continue receiving annual MTRS annuity savings account statements after I retire.

**True**

**False**

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True

False

**False!**

**After you have retired, instead of receiving an annual statement, you will receive a 1099-R tax form every January.**

Your 1099-R will show—for the previous calendar year—the total amount of your benefit payments, as well as the total amounts withheld for federal taxes and/or insurance premiums, if any.

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**6** When I retire, I will have to wait up to four months to receive my first retirement check.

**True**

**False**

**6** When I retire, I will have to wait up to four months to receive my first retirement check.

**True**

**False**

**False!**

If you file your application “on time,” you will most likely receive your check within one to two months after your date of retirement (“on time” means four months before your intended date of retirement).

**7** After I retire, I can go back to work with my school district or other Massachusetts public employer without any restrictions.

**True**

**False**

**7** After I retire, I can go back to work with my school district or other Massachusetts public employer without any restrictions.

True

False

**False!**

**As an MTRS retiree, you will be subject to time and earnings restrictions if you are re-employed with a Massachusetts public employer.**

There are, however, no restrictions if you are re-employed: in the private sector; as a public employee in another state; or, with the federal government (see [Working after retirement](#)).

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**8** I can estimate my retirement benefits using an interactive estimator on this website.

**True**

**False**



8 I can estimate my retirement benefits using an interactive estimator on this website.

**True**

**False**

**True!**

Always in our “Top Ten,” the [estimator](#) receives an average of 4,000 hits each month.

**Thank you for taking our quiz.  
Want to know more?  
Please stay a while and browse our site!**

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